(ग) क्या यह सच है कि उक्त लक्ष्य को प्राप्त नहीं किया जा सका; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं?

खाद्य और उपभोक्ता मामले मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सत्य पाल सिंह यादव): (क) चूंकि भारतीय खाद्य निगम/राज्य सरकारों और उनकी एजेंसियों द्वारा केवल उन खाद्यान्नों की ही वसूली की जाती है जो किसानों द्वारा पेशकश किए जाते हैं इसलिए मूल्य समर्थन प्रचालनों के अधीन खाद्यान्नों की वसूली स्वैच्छिक स्वरूप की है। इस प्रकार वसूली का कोई लक्ष्य निर्धारित नहीं किया जाता। तथापि रबी विपणन मौसम 1996-97 में कुल 81.83 लाख टन गेहूं की वसूली की गई थी।

(ख) 1.4.1998 की स्थिति के अनुसार केन्द्रीय पूल में 50.75 लाख टन गेहूं उपलब्ध था।

(ग) और (घ) उपर्युक्त (क) की दृष्टि में प्रश्न नहीं उठते।

Mahajan Committee Report on Sugar

307. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:
SHRI N.R. DASARI:
DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR:
SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Mahajan Committee on sugar industry has recommended total decontrol of the sugar pricing system in two years and discontinuation of sugar supply through the PDS after the phase out;

(b) if so, the details of the recommendations made by the Committee and Government's decision thereon; and

(c) the new guidelines being laid for ensuring availability of sugar to the poor at subsidised rate in the event of any decontrol of the rate of sugar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YEADV): (a) to (c) The High Powered Committee on Sugar Industry, under the Chairmanship of Shri B.B. Mahajan, submitted its report on 15.4.98. With regard to 'Price Control & PDS', the Committee has made the following recommendations:—

(i) The Committee has recommended complete decontrol of sugar. However, the Committee has further stated that decontrol may be phased over a period of two years. From the beginning of the Sugar Season following the date of announcement of the policy, the percentage of levy sugar may be reduced at 20%, which may be continued at the same rate during the next sugar season; and from the beginning of the subsequent sugar season the levy may be completely abolished.

(ii) Control on releases should continue even after complete decontrol of prices.

(iii) Supply of sugar through PDS may be discontinued when complete decontrol becomes effective. The subsidy at present allowed in supply of sugar through PDS can be distributed among the beneficiaries by adding to the subsidy at present allowed on foodgrains.

The recommendations of the Committee are under examination in Government.

Allowing Import of Duty Free Sugar

308. SHRI N.R. DASARI:

SHRI JALALUDIN ANSARI:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the policy or allowing import of sugar, free of duty adopted in 1994-95 still continued even though the production of sugar has picked up since then;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that the continuance of this import policy and sharp decline in world sugar prices, will adversely affect the indigenous production of sugar; and

(c) if so, the details and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV): (a) to (c) The Import Policy-allowing import or sugar on OGL, free of duty-was introduced in order to provide an 'Import Window' to meet a contingency in which